



Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DEAN C. LOGAN Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

October 11, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

# **ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

17 October 11, 2016

LORI GLASGOW EXECUTIVE OFFICER

AUTHORIZE THE REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK (RR/CC) TO INCREASE THE POLLWORKER STIPENDS BY \$50 FOR INSPECTORS, \$20 FOR CLERKS, AND \$15 FOR IN-PERSON TRAINING (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)

#### **SUBJECT**

N/A

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve the proposed increase in the stipend for Los Angeles County pollworkers by \$50 for Inspectors, \$20 for Clerks, and \$15 for attendance at in-person training to be effective beginning with the November 8, 2016 Presidential Election.

#### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Pollworkers are volunteers that are paid a stipend to cover their incidental expenses for providing services at designated polling locations throughout the County. Currently, Los Angeles County's Pollworker stipend is \$100 for an Inspector and \$80 for a Clerk. These rates have been in effect since June 2006, when the Board of Supervisors approved a \$25 stipend increase for Inspectors and Clerks.

The issue of a pollworker stipend increase was previously raised by a member of the public at a Board meeting in July 2015 and the RR/CC in conjunction with the Chief Executive Office (CEO) addressed the matter in a September 2015 memo to the Board. Based on that request, an analysis of other county and city stipends was conducted and it was determined that the above mentioned Inspector and Clerk stipend increases were reasonable. However, since RR/CC's recorder fee revenue trends were uncertain, the CEO recommended a deferral of the

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increase until recorder revenues stabilized.

At the August 2, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting, Supervisor Antonovich instructed the RR/CC to review correspondence submitted by another member of the public related to the devaluation of pollworker compensation due to inflation and to report back to your Board. Per RR/CC's August 30, 2016 Board response, with CEO funding concurrence, the Department is now seeking your approval of the stipend increase effective with the November 8, 2016 Presidential election.

#### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This request supports the County Strategic Plan as follows:

County Goal No. 1: Operational Effectiveness: Maximize the effectiveness of the County's process, structure, and operations to support timely delivery of customer-oriented and efficient public service.

County Goal No. 2: Fiscal Sustainability: Strengthen and enhance the County's capacity to sustain essential County services through proactive and prudent fiscal policies and stewardship.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The appropriation increase of \$823,000 is included in the RR/CC's FY 2016-17 Final Adopted Budget. This increase is offset by an \$823,000 increase in the recorder fee revenue and, therefore, will not increase net County cost. This funding is to increase the pollworker stipends from \$100 to \$150 (Inspector), \$80 to \$100 (Clerks), and \$25 to \$40 (for Inspectors and Clerks to attend in-person training).

#### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The RR/CC is requesting approval for the proposed stipend increase in order to facilitate the recruitment and retention of pollworkers essential to the successful conduct of elections in Los Angeles County. Election Code Section 12310 allows each pollworker to receive a stipend for services as determined by the governing board of the jurisdiction and indicates that pollworkers shall be paid out of the treasury of the jurisdiction in which the election is held. Election Code Section 12310 further states that the Inspector may receive more compensation than the other members of the precinct board as they perform significant additional duties directed by the elections official.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The proposed stipend increase will assist with recruitment and retention of pollworkers for current and future elections. Pollworkers perform a critical function that is essential to insure the ability of millions of voters to cast their ballots at over 5,000 voting precincts throughout the County.

# **CONCLUSION**

Upon approval by your Board, the Executive Officer is requested to return one (1) adopted copy of this letter to:

Department of Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

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Finance and Management Division 12400 Imperial Highway, Room 7211 Norwalk, CA 90650 Attention: Ann Smith, Fiscal Operations Branch

Respectfully submitted,

DEAN C. LOGAN

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DCL:AS:mp

**Enclosures** 

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller





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## **SUBJECT:**

The Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) requests Board approval to increase the pollworker stipends from \$100 to \$150 (Inspector), \$80 to \$100 (Clerks), and \$25 to \$40 (for Inspectors and Clerks to attend in-person training). Stipend increases are necessary to assist in the increasingly difficult task of recruiting pollworkers and to allow the County to remain competitive with other counties.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD, AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING:

Approve the proposed increase in the stipend for Los Angeles County pollworkers by \$50 for Inspectors, \$20 for Clerks, and \$15 for attendance at in-person training to be effective beginning with the November 8, 2016 Presidential Election.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

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Respectfully submitted,

DEAN C. LOGAN Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

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Attachments

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller